UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

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GENERAL

A/S-19/2
12 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Nineteenth special session
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

Note by the President of the General Assembly

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 47/190 of 22 December 1992, 50/113 of 20 December 1995 and 51/181 of 16 December 1996, the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 was convened for a duration of one week, from 23 to 27 June 1997. The provisional agenda of the special session was issued as document A/S-19/1.

2. Taking into consideration the practice of previous special sessions, the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 51/181 and decision 51/467 of 18 April 1997, and the informal consultations held by the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-first session with Member States on 2 and 4 April 1997 on the organization of the special session, the Assembly may wish to consider the following arrangements for the nineteenth special session:

1. President

3. The nineteenth special session shall take place under the presidency of the President of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

2. Vice-Presidents

4. The Vice-Presidents of the nineteenth special session shall be the same as at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

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3. General Committee

5. The General Committee of the nineteenth special session shall consist of the President of the special session, the 21 Vice-Presidents of the special session, the Chairmen of the six Main Committees of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the special session.

4. Credentials Committee

6. The Credentials Committee of the nineteenth special session shall have the same membership as the Credentials Committee of the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

5. Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole

7. The nineteenth special session shall establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the nineteenth special session. The Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole shall consist of one Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and one Rapporteur.

6. Rules of procedure

8. The rules of procedure of the General Assembly shall apply at the nineteenth special session.

7. Level of representation

9. In paragraph 1 of resolution 51/181, the General Assembly decided that representation should be "at the highest political level of participation".

8. Allocation of items

10. The substantive item (overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21) shall be allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the nineteenth special session for consideration, on the understanding that the debate on the item shall take place in plenary meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee would be entrusted with the task of considering all proposals submitted and preparing the final document(s) for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole will also hear statements from observers, representatives of United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and others.

9. Debate on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

11. The debate on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 shall begin in plenary meeting on the morning of Monday, 23 June and end in the afternoon of Friday, 27 June 1997. Owing to the large number of speakers expected to take the floor in a limited amount of time, statements should not exceed 7 minutes.

12. Without creating a precedent, Heads of State, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes and Princesses and Heads of Government shall have equal standing as concerns the list of speakers.

10. Participation of speakers other than Member States in the debate

13. States members of the specialized agencies which are not members of the United Nations but which were invited to participate in the work of the special session in the capacity of observers in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 51/181, and intergovernmental and other organizations and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the Assembly will be invited to participate in the debate in plenary meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole will also hear statements by observers.

14. Representatives of United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and others will be invited to participate in the debate in plenary meeting, provided they are at the highest level. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole will also hear statements by representatives of United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and others.

15. In accordance with General Assembly decision 51/467 of 18 April 1997, the President of the Assembly extended invitations to representatives of major groups, as identified in Agenda 21 and represented by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and on the roster, to participate in the debate in plenary meeting.

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A/S-19/3
26 June 1997

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Nineteenth special session
Agenda item 3

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NINETEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Denis DANGUE RÉWAKA (Gabon)

1. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 23 June 1997, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its nineteenth special session consisting of the following Member States: China, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Netherlands, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone and United States of America.

2. The Credentials Committee held its meeting on 25 June 1997.

3. Mr. Denis Dangue Réwaka (Gabon) was unanimously elected Chairman.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General, dated 24 June 1997, concerning the credentials of representatives of Member States to the nineteenth special session. The Legal Counsel made a statement relating to the memorandum in which he, inter alia, updated it by indicating the credentials and communications received subsequent to its preparation.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum and the statement relating thereto, formal credentials of representatives to the nineteenth special session, in the form required by rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, had been received as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee from the following 63 Member States: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia

(Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay and Uzbekistan.

6. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum and the statement relating thereto, information concerning the appointment of the representatives of Member States to the session had been communicated to the Secretary-General, as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, by means of a cable or a telefax from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the Permanent Mission concerned, by the following 78 Member States: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

7. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum and the statement relating thereto, the following 42 Member States participating in the nineteenth special session had not, as of the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, communicated to the Secretary-General information regarding their representatives to the session, but had previously empowered their permanent representatives to represent their respective States in all organs of the United Nations without limitation as to session: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Canada, Chad, Czech Republic, Dominica, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Zambia.

8. The Chairman recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of all Member States mentioned in the Secretary-General's memorandum, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Secretary-General's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible. He proposed the following draft resolution for adoption by the Committee:

"The Credentials Committee,

"Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly of the Member States referred to in the memorandum of the Secretary-General dated 24 June 1997,

"Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States concerned."

9. The draft resolution proposed by the Chairman was adopted without a vote.

10. The Chairman then proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 12). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

11. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

12. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NINETEENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Denis DANGUE RÉWAKA (Gabon)

Corrigendum

Paragraph 6, line 7

After Algeria insert Armenia

Paragraph 7, line 8

Delete Armenia

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